



**January Service**  
At 3.00 pm  
Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2026  
Led by Revd. Kevin Hooke  
**We hope you can come**

## Carol Service

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December, 7.00 pm

Please join us on Dartmoor for this joyful  
and atmospheric occasion as we celebrate  
the birth of Jesus in words and music

**Service led by Revd. Kevin Hooke**

**Coffee and mince pies to follow**

**Come and enjoy the night sky**

**- weather permitting!**

**Collection for Action for Children**

Poundsgate Carol Service Help is needed to prepare and decorate the Chapel in advance of the Carol Service and to provide tea/coffee and mince pies etc. We hope to make final arrangements for this at the service this Sunday (7 Dec). Thank you.

Paper versions of this newsletter are printed on FSC Mix paper

## Poundsgate Methodist Church



**Teignbridge Circuit**

Beside the main road from Ashburton to Tavistock about 1/2 mile on the  
moorland side of Poundsgate village (TQ13 7NY)



**December 2025**  
**Happy Christmas**



## December Service

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December, 3 pm

Led by Revd. Kevin Hooke

In conversation with  
William West from St Andrew's  
Parish Church in Ashburton

**We hope you can come**

**Dear Friends,**

You may have noticed that this month's edition of the magazine is later than usual. I am entirely to blame for this – I simply overlooked the fact that my deadline for writing had actually passed. I would like to say that it is down to busyness or the Advent rush, but that's no excuse, and it would only be partially true. It was just a diary and brain malfunction.

There is no denying, though, that this season of Advent, supposedly a time of reflection and inner preparation, easily becomes a hectic rush to get things done, and that our church commitment adds a layer of busyness – with churches as well as homes to decorate, carol services (and their inevitable refreshments) to organise and attend, maybe extra choir practices... It is easy for all these things to become an end in themselves, and for us to lose the wonder of Christmas in the midst of the familiarity of the story and the head-space required for all the practical preparations.

At Ashburton last week, I heard a Christmas song that I had never come across before. Written by Matt Osgood, there are particular lines which struck me as portraying the heart of the nativity with beauty and simplicity:

*"The hands that once split night from day now feebly clutch a blade of hay..."*

**Please be sure to stay for tea/coffee  
and cake after the service**

**Our Minister:** Revd. Kevin Hooke

Tel: 07772571647

Please send email messages for  
Poundsgate Chapel, including  
requests to receive this newsletter, to  
[poundsgatemethodists@gmail.com](mailto:poundsgatemethodists@gmail.com)



*Majestic king, now small and weak, the Word of God must learn to  
speak,  
this is Immanuel....  
For God has entered time and space to show the world his endless  
grace,  
this is Immanuel."*

The idea of the creator God, who in Genesis 1 spoke and it came to be (however we understand Genesis 1, that's the imagery that is used), now having to learn to speak and clutching hay, is mind-blowing, beyond my comprehension, but also transforming. What does it say to us about humility and love, about power and vulnerability, risk and trust? In all the busyness of December, let's take notice of those moments and things that cause us to pause in wonder and awe that remind us of the mystery and majesty of the heart of Christmas, and what it means for us.

**With love and best wishes for Christmas and the New Year, Kevin**

**Rota** For the service on 7<sup>th</sup> December, it is the turn of Miffie and Michael. Thank you. **For Carol Service preparations, decorating and refreshments we welcome offers of help please.** Thank you. We are looking for someone to help provide tea/coffee and cake once every four months. If you would like to join the rota and help in this or another way, please let us know. Thank you.